

# SLEEPING BEAUTY

## The Sleeping Beauty

Script, Music &  
Lyrics by Richard R.  
Giersch

**The Sleeping Beauty** is a musical written by Richard Giersch based on the story by Charles Perrault. This program is presented in support of the Virginia Standards of Learning.

### AT THE LIBRARY:

*Michael Hague's read-to-me book of fairy tales* by Allison MacDonald

*Julia the Sleeping Beauty Fairy* by Daisy Meadows

*Perrault's Fairy Tales* (Dover Children's Classics) by Charles Perrault, Gustave Dore

*The Complete Fairy Tales of Charles Perrault*, by Charles Perrault. Illustrated by Sally Holmes; Translated by Nicoletta Simborowski and Neil Philip

*The Sleeping Beauty* by C.S. Evans

### ON THE WEB:

The Project Gutenberg Fairy Tales of Charles Perrault:  
<http://www.gutenberg.org/files/29021/29021-h/29021-h.htm>



## Play Synopsis

Enjoy this Virginia Repertory Theatre production of the classic fairy tale, *The Sleeping Beauty*.

A curse is bestowed upon Princess Nichole by a fairy who thinks she has been snubbed when King Louis forgets to invite her to Nichole's christening. While the other fairies bestow Nichole with gifts such as charm, grace,

modesty, patience, and beauty, the evil Elvira puts a spell on Nichole which will come to pass on the eve of her 17th birthday.

A palace servant, Philippe, proves he is a 'true prince' when he saves the princess Nichole from the evil curse.

The play also features a reluctant king, Louis,

who pines for a life as a juggler in the circus, and Madame Sophie, his mother, who is briefly turned into a frog by the evil Elvira.

Set in the beautiful French palace of Versailles in the 18th century, this tale of love, responsibility, greed, and jealousy also features its fair share of humor, music, and even a little juggling!

## TOO MANY BALLS IN THE AIR: FORCE AND MOTION IN JUGGLING



Using this sheet as a guide, lead students in a discovery lab experience about force and motion as they relate to juggling.

**Prediction:** Why do you think it is difficult to learn to juggle?

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**Materials:**

Two tennis or racquet balls for each group of students

**Procedures:**

1. Take turns trying to “juggle” the two balls.
2. Talk with your group about what you observe:
  - a. What is making the balls move?
  - b. In what direction or directions are the balls moving?
  - c. Do the balls change direction? If so, why do you think they are changing directions?
  - d. Are there different ways to juggle the balls that allow you to juggle without dropping a ball?
3. Use the space below to illustrate the path of the balls through the air when a person juggles.

Observations (Draw the paths of the balls juggled. Label your drawing with arrows showing the balls' motion / direction):

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Conclusion: When someone juggles balls in the air, what force(s) are at work? Explain.

**Vocabulary to Know:**

Kinetic energy

Gravity

Force

## CAST A SPELL

The fairies Elvira and Annabelle both cast spells during *The Sleeping Beauty*. Which words in each of these spells rhyme? With a partner, write a rhyming evil spell and another that breaks it!

### Elvira's Spell for Sophie

Eye of blow toad  
 Ear of a doggie  
 Turn this woman  
 Into a froggie!

### Annabelle's Spell for Sophie

A chicken's lips  
 A coyote's paw  
 Change this frog  
 Into a Ma.

**Bonus:** Annabelle's spell didn't quite undo Elvira's. What was "left over" from Elvira's spell on Sophie?

Your Spell #1

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Your Spell #2

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The other wood fairies bestowed upon Nichole beauty, charm, patience, grace, modesty, and wit.

These are all good traits! If a woodland fairy visited you, what character trait would you want her to bestow upon you? Explain.

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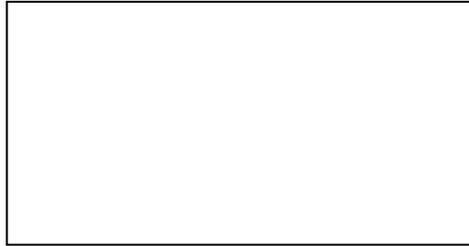
## SET A SETTING

In literature, writers emphasize setting in various ways - through events, action, and description. Some settings are unimportant; others are extremely important in understanding the entire story. In a play, the setting is portrayed not only through events and action, but through props, costumes, and set design.

Think about *The Sleeping Beauty* and record ideas about its setting below. Then use the space at the bottom of the page to illustrate a setting that you would like to write about.

### ***The Sleeping Beauty***

Props/costumes/set design that showed the **PLACE**:



Props/costumes/set design that showed the **TIME**:



Write a description of the setting:

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My setting:

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## THE THEATRE TEAM:

**It takes a team to put on a play! Let's find out who's who on the theatre team. The actors are the people you see whenever you go to a play, but there are a lot of people on the Theatre Team you never get to see. This whole team works hard to get a show ready for you:**

**Actors** are the people who perform the play on stage. You see them every time you attend a play.

**Directors** tell the actors where to move on the stage and oversee the work of everyone involved in the play.

**The Stage Manager** is responsible for calling lighting and sound cues and for supervising the technical crew.

**The Playwright** writes the play. What they write tells the actors what to say on stage.

**The Prop Master** is in charge of the objects used by the actors on stage.

**The Costume Designer** plans the clothing the actors wear, called costumes. Costumes give clues about when and where a story takes place, and about the characters who wear them.

**The Set Designers** plan the scenery for the play.

### VIRGINIA REPERTORY THEATRE

#### *Formerly Theatre IV*

Virginia Rep's Children's Theatre is a nonprofit, professional theatre in Richmond, Virginia.

Since 1975 we've created exciting and innovative theatrical productions for young audiences. Each year we stage six shows at our intimate Children's Theatre in Richmond, and we tour national-caliber, educational plays to schools and public venues in Virginia and across the country.

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